

THE PACIFIC
Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR.

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THE LEVITY OF THE LAW.

"Old Father Antic, the Law," must, in the nature of things, have his humorous moments. Usually, however, he gets somebody at the bar, rather than on the bench, to express them for him. The wit and humor of the bar is proverbial, but the bench has a reputation for solemn dignity which even keeps the cartoonists at bay. There are times, however, when even Jove laughs and when the man in ermine unbends and adds to the harmless gaiety of the populace—as witness these extracts, printed in the American Law School Reporter from decisions of State Supreme Courts:

"There is nothing certain about a law suit except the expense of it." "In the Happy Hunting Ground there are no corporations, as they have no souls, and consequently no hereafter." "It is needless to make the speech long because the case is weak." "Those who shoot at their friends for amusement ought to warn them first that it is mere sport." "The first exercise of mechanical ingenuity was the manufacture of fig-leaf aprons." "A policeman is only a citizen dressed in blue clothes and brass buttons." "On appeal it is not sufficient that God knows a thing, but the record must show it." "A man does not marry a woman for the mere pleasure of paying for her board and washing." "A policeman is an excellent judge of whisky, and when he has tasted liquor he is able to say whether it is whisky or not." "It is libelous for a telegraph company to transmit the following message: 'Slippery Sam, Your name is pants (Signed) Many Republicans.'" "A husband is not guilty of desertion when his wife rents his room to a boarder and crowds him out of the house." "A man is not a habitual drunkard merely because occasionally he gets to feeling good." "The quality of the advice of counsel may be such as to warrant the presumption that it was obtained gratis." "Lawsuits are frequently ended without having determined anything except, possibly, the costs." "A locomotive and a mule may well pass over the same ground, so that they pass at different moments of time." "Woman has always been a favorite with equity, and it always throws its willing arms around her."

"He who attacks with a double-barrel gun may be resisted just as if he shot with a single barrel." "When a woman passenger says she was injured in the attempt by a railway company to pass one car by another upon a single track, the railway company will always have to pay for it." "It is not ground for a new trial that the jury in a murder case were taken to church and allowed to hear a sermon on the subject of Doubting Thomas." "No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session."

The "sweat box" method of wrestling confessions from prisoners is sharply condemned by the Supreme Court of the Territory. It is a variation from the old thumb-screw and rack device of the Spanish Inquisition and is nicely calculated to make a man confess to anything rather than stand the punishment. A searching inquiry into what is known as the "third degree," a discipline used upon the murderer of President McKinley to make him reveal the names of accomplices, if he had any, ought to be made by the humane societies. From all indications it is a relic of mediaeval barbarism.

Gen. Gripenberg had a stroke of apoplexy on Nov. 12, on hearing of the death of his son, at the front. This will compel a change in the command of the Russian second army, which was expected to operate with Kaulbars' first army, under the general control of Kuropatkin. Gen. Gripenberg is a man of advanced years.

Sir Thomas Lipton will not challenge for the cup in 1905 and no substitute is in sight. A new British designer, Alfred Mylne, will build a boat for Lipton to try in the home races and if the craft is speedy enough Mylne may be employed to build a challenger for the Tea King in 1906.

It is a pity that steps should have to be taken to prevent a free use of city water. Enough mountain water goes to waste to permit every citizen of Honolulu to use all he wants. Impounded it would keep all the taps running.

For a brakebeam tramp, General Coney did very well to fall for \$287,000. He will now be more than ever the envy of the hobo brotherhood, most of whom would be glad to fall for ten cents.

If glanders has been here all the time for twenty years as a contemporary remarks, it speaks badly for the system of inspection.

A GOOD MAN GONE.

The late James Kekela was a man whom his white brethren delighted to honor—one who chose a noble and self-sacrificing part in life, who did not give it up when hardships came and death threatened and who died as he had lived, a sincere Christian gentleman.

The story of Kekela's life reads in some chapters like a lurid romance, because it was made up of adventures among pirates and cannibals; and in other chapters like the testimony of the saints, for Kekela gave many years to helping the degraded heathen at risk of all the natural man holds dear. There is a chapter, too, which connects this old missionary with Abraham Lincoln, from whom Kekela received gifts and thanks.

Hawaiians have many great men of whom they boast, but the career of no man among them has demonstrated higher racial qualities or done more to encourage those who expect much of the native people than that of James Kekela.

Inquiry as to where the "Government buildings" stand which are illustrated in the Nordhoff article on Hawaii now running in the Sunday Advertiser, develops the fact that they never existed at all. A design was sent up from Australia which, when Mr. Nordhoff was first here, the public supposed would be adopted. In using it Mr. Nordhoff thought he was merely anticipating results. Afterwards the Government compromised on the present Judiciary building.

Submarines will have a thorough test when the Baltic fleet approaches the Far East. Japan has five or more and Russia reports the arrival of two at Vladivostok. The existence of these hidden destroyers is bound to make naval fighting somewhat more circumspect. Very likely warships will move, while in a battle, with great speed and never so as to go over the same course twice, the object being to evade the slow-moving submarines and disconcert them.

Just as the Japanese get into shape to make the harbor of Port Arthur untenable, Admiral Togo's chief blockaders draw off. The obvious purpose is to lure the Russian fleet to destruction. When Togo's big fighting machines disappear, leaving but a few scouts in front of Port Arthur, the chances are that they have simply hidden in the fog awaiting wireless tips about the movements of the enemy.

One of the things the big island ought to acquire are Concord stages, such as were used in early days to cross the the plains and to traverse the mining regions of California. The Hawaii stage is little better than an express wagon. Riding in a Concord, even over a rough road, is a physical pleasure which redeems travel in a broken country from its worst discomfort.

The Dalai Lama of Thibet has arrived at Peking from Lhasa, whence he escaped as the British approached. The Buddhist pontiff is now resting in a Chinese Lamasery. The news is current that nobody of any consequence signed the treaty with Great Britain and that when the Lama returns in the Spring he will ignore it.

Italy has refused to let the cruiser division of the Baltic fleet coal on the coast of her Red Sea possessions. England is less scrupulous, as British colliers are waiting with supplies for the Russian vessels all along the way. A nice international question has already grown out of this apparent breach of neutrality.

A Voice from the Vanquished.

Missouri's gone republican. There ain't much more to say. I'm waitin' now to see the world turn 'round the other way. Considering what has happened, 'twon't surprise me in the least. To see the sun rise in the west instead of in the east. I half expect to see the sky come down and rain ascend—

There really ain't no tellin' where the thing is goin' to end. I can't find proper language for expressin' my dismay; Missouri's gone republican. There ain't much more to say. It isn't any wonder that my courage kind o' fails; 'Twas hard when West Virginia went a-waverin' in the scales, 'Twas even worse to realize the music of the band Took on a special meanin' when it played "My Maryland." But when you start a-tumblin', why, there ain't no way to tell Just when you finally have reached the bottom of the well. Give 'em Tennessee an' Texas to increase the strange array. Missouri's gone republican. There ain't much more to say.

Colonel Henry Watterson, of Kentucky, recently told a story of an old darkey down South who was informed that if he was bitten by a snake and drank a quart of whisky the snake would die and he would go unscathed. "Dar's only one trouble 'bout dat cure," the old man said; "I knows whar dere's plenty snakes, but whar's I gwine ter git de whisky?"

INCREASED
FORCE NEEDED

Secretary Morton will at its coming session ask Congress to pass an act increasing the commissioned and enlisted force of the navy. This increase in the naval force is regarded as essential by the department, as it is shown by estimates recently prepared that when all the ships now building for the Navy Department are commissioned it will take about 2087 officers and 62,368 enlisted men to man them, more than double the number now authorized by law.

Owing to the lack of officers and enlisted men in the navy to meet the actual needs of the service it has been found necessary for the Navy Department to order at least three warships out of commission in order to man warships which have just been completed and now waiting commission. The three vessels to be put out of commission will be selected from five which are deemed the least necessary for further active service at this time. The tentative list consists of the cruisers Atlanta, Castine and Marietta of the south Atlantic squadron and the gunboats Newport and Bancroft of the Caribbean squadron.

The vacancies on the stations made by the detachment of three of the five vessels named will be filled by the assignment of newer vessels about to be commissioned. The subject is now under consideration at the Navy Department and it is expected that the result will be announced in a few days.

A TIMELY SUGGESTION.—This is the season of the year when the prudent and careful housewife replenishes her supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is certain to be needed before the winter is over, and results are much more prompt and satisfactory when it is kept at hand and given as soon as the cold is contracted and before it has become settled in the system. In almost every instance a severe cold may be ward off by taking this remedy freely as soon as the first indication of the cold appears. There is no danger in giving it to children for it contains no harmful substance. It is pleasant to take—both adults and children like it. Buy it and you will get the best. It always cures. Sold by all Dealers, Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., Agents for Hawaii.

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White Dotted Swisses, width 27 inches. Reduced from 25c. to 15c. Mercerized Chambray, width 27 inches. Reduced from 30c. to 12½c. Plain French Batiste, width 40 inches, in light blue, pink, red and black. Reduced from 30c. to 20c. Plain French Organdies, in pink, blue, red and yellow. Reduced from 30c. to 15c. Dotted Swisses, of Nile green, red pink and light blue. Reduced from 30c. to 15c. Plain Batiste, width 40 inches; colors: red, pink, light blue, green. Reduced from 6 yards for \$1.00 to 8 yards for \$1.00.

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